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## DICTIONARY

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## consignment - constrain | 200

demands would have consigned the student leaders to prisons and labour camps 4 to address or deliver (goods): a cargo of oil drilling equipment consigned to Saudi Arabia [Latin *consignare* to put one's seal to, sign] > **consignee** *n* > **consignor** *n*

**consignment** *n* 1 a shipment of goods 2 the act or an instance of consigning; the goods are sent to Hong Kong for onward consignment to customers in the area

**consist** *vb* 1 **consist** of to be made up of: a match consists of seven games 2 **consist** in to have as its main or only part: his madness, if he is mad, consists in believing that he is a sundial [Latin *consistere* to stand firm]

**consistency** *n*, *pl* -encies 1 degree of thickness or smoothness 2 being consistent

**consistent** *adj* 1 holding to the same principles 2 in agreement > **consistently** *adv*

**consolation** *n* 1 a person or thing that is a comfort in a time of sadness or distress 2 a consoling or being consoled

**consolation prize** *n* something given to console the loser of a game

**console** *vb* -soling, -soled to comfort (someone) in sadness or distress [Latin *consolari*] > **consoleable** *adj*

**console** *n* 1 a panel of controls for electronic equipment 2 a cabinet for a television or audio equipment 3 an ornamental bracket used to support a wall fixture 4 the desklike case of an organ, containing the pedals, stops, and keys [Old French *consolateur* one that provides support]

**consolidate** *vb* -dating, -dated 1 to make or become stronger or more stable 2 to combine into a whole [Latin *consolidare* to make firm] > **consolidation** *n* > **consolidator** *n*

**consommé** (kon-som-may) *n* a thin clear meat soup [French]

**consonance** *n* formal agreement or harmony

**consonant** *n* 1 a speech sound made by partially or completely blocking the breath streams; for example b or f 2 a letter representing this > *adj* 2 **consonant** with

in keeping or agreement with: an individualistic style of religion, more consonant with liberal society 3 harmonious: this highly-dissonant chord is followed by a more consonant one [Latin *consonare* to sound at the same time]

**consort** *vb* 1 **consort** with to keep company with > *n* 2 a husband or wife of a reigning monarch 3 a small group of voices or instruments [Latin *consors* partner]

**consortium** *n*, *pl* -tia an association of business firms [Latin: partnership]

**conspicuous** *n* formal a survey or summary [Latin: a viewing]

**conspicuous** *adj* 1 clearly visible 2 noteworthy or striking: conspicuous bravery [Latin *conspicuus*]

> **conspicuously** *adv*

**conspiracy** *n*, *pl* -cies 1 a secret plan to carry out an illegal or harmful act 2 the act of making such plans

**conspire** *vb* -spiring, -spired 1 to plan a crime together in secret 2 to act together as if by design: the weather and the recession conspired to hit wine production and sales [Latin *conspirare* to plot together] > **conspirator** *n*

> **conspiratorial** *adj*

**constable** *n* a police officer of the lowest rank [Late Latin *comes stabuli* officer in charge of the stable]

**Constable** *n* John: 1776-1837, English landscape painter, noted particularly for his skill in rendering atmospheric effects of changing light

**constabulary** *n*, *pl* -laries chiefly Brit the police force of an area

**Constance** *n* 1 a city in S Germany, in Baden-Württemberg on Lake Constance; tourist centre. Pop: 80 716 (2003 est). German name: Konstanz 2 Lake

Constance a lake in W Europe, bounded by S Germany, W Austria, and N Switzerland, through which the Rhine flows. Area: 536 sq km. (207 sq miles). German name: Bodensee

**constant** *adj* 1 continuous: she has endured constant criticism, mockery, and humiliation 2 unchanging: the average speed of

the winds remained constant over this period 3 faithful > *n* 4 maths, physics a quantity or number which remains invariable: the velocity of light is a constant 5 something that is unchanging [Latin *constare* to be steadfast] > **constancy** *n* > **constantly** *adv*

**Constant** *n* Benjamin, real name Henri Benjamin Constant de Rebecque, 1767-1830, French writer and politician; author of the psychological novel *Adolphe* (1816)

**Constanta** *n* a port and resort in SE Romania, on the Black Sea; founded by the Greeks in the 6th century BC and rebuilt by Constantine the Great (4th century); exports petroleum. Pop: 265 000 (2005 est)

**Constantia** *n* African 1 a region of the Cape Peninsula 2 any of several red or white wines produced around Constantia

**Constantine** *n* a walled city in NE Algeria; built on an isolated rock; military and trading centre. Pop: 482 000 (2005 est)

**Constantine I** *n* 1 known as Constantine the Great, Latin name Flavius Valerius Aurelius Constantinus, 280-337 AD, first Christian Roman emperor (306-337); moved his capital to Byzantium, which he renamed Constantinople (330)

2 1868-1923, King of Greece (1913-17; 1920-22); deposed (1917), recalled by a plebiscite (1920), but forced to abdicate again (1922) after defeat by the Turks

**Constantine II** *n* official title Constantine XIII born 1940, King of Greece (1964-73); went into exile when the army seized power in 1967. He was officially deposed in 1973 and Greece became a republic

**Constantine VII** *n* known as Porphyrogenitus, 905-59 AD, Byzantine emperor (913-59) and scholar; his writings are an important source for Byzantine history

**Constantine XI** *n* 1404-53, last Byzantine emperor (1448-53); killed when Constantinople was captured by the Turks

**Constantinople** *n* the former name (330-1926) of Istanbul

**constellation** *n* 1 a group of stars which form a pattern and are given a name 2 a group of people or things; the constellation of favourable circumstances [Latin *com*-together + *stella* star]

**consternation** *n* a feeling of anxiety or dismay

**constipated** *adj* unable to empty one's bowels [Latin *constipare* to press closely together]

**constipation** *n* a condition in which emptying one's bowels is difficult

**constituency** *n*, *pl* -cies 1 the area represented by a Member of Parliament 2 the voters in such an area

**constituent** *n* 1 a person living in an MP's constituency 2 a component part > *adj* 3 forming part of a whole: the constituent parts of the universe 4 having the power to make or change a constitution of a state: a constituent assembly [Latin *constituere* to constitute]

**constitute** *vb* -tuting, -tuted 1 to form or make up: the amazing range of crags that constitute the Eghwyseg Mountains 2 to set up (an institution) formally [Latin *com*-together (intensive) + *statuere* to place]

**constitution** *n* 1 the principles on which a state is governed 2 the Constitution (in certain countries) the statute embodying such principles 3 a person's state of health 4 the make-up or structure of something: changes in the very constitution of society

**constitutional** *adj* 1 of a constitution: a authorized by or in accordance with the Constitution of a nation: constitutional monarchy 3 inherent in the nature of a person or thing: a constitutional sensitivity to cold > *n* 4 a regular walk taken for the good of one's health

> **constitutionally** *adv*

**constitutive** *adj* 1 forming a part of something 2 with the power to appoint or establish

**constrain** *vb* 1 to compel or force; he felt constrained to apologize 2 to limit, restrict, or inhibit: the mobility of workers is constrained by the serious housing shortage [Latin *constringere* to bind together]